

another aspect in that the system further comprises a charge calculating means for calculating a charge using the data sending/receiving node; wherein said charge calculating means calculates the charge for using the system in accordance with how many times the data processing means in the relay node processed data and/or the type of the data processes which the data processing means is conducted.

It may be possible to arrange such that the charge calculating means calculate the charge in accordance with how much the data sending/receiving node used the computer resources provided in the relay node.

#### Brief Explanation of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a schematic view showing a construction of the data storage system according to the present invention;

Fig. 2(a) to 2(e)(b) are schematic views depicting processes conducted in the first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 3(a) to 3(c) are schematic views illustrating processes conducted in the second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a schematic view representing processes conducted in the third embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a schematic view showing processes conducted in the fourth embodiment of the present invention.

#### Detailed Explanation of the Preferred Embodiments

The detail of the preferred embodiments of the present invention will be explained below, referring to the attached drawings.

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing a basic construction of the data storage system according to the present invention. As shown in Fig. 1, the data storage system 1 of the present invention comprises a data sending/receiving node 10, which is a company attending to, for instance, EDI, and a data processing center 20, which works to relay data transferred/received from/by the data sending/receiving node 10.

The data processing center 20 is located between the data sending/receiving node 10 and a network 100, so that all data transferred/received from/by the node 10 via the network is relayed by the data processing center 20. To the network 100, is